THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Let me say my point first. We are now adjourning the House for half-an hour. After that whatever point you want to raise, you can raise.

The House then adjourned for dinner at thirty-one minutes past nine of the clock.

The House reassembled at five minutes past ten of the clock, The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

REG. CERTAIN INCIDENTS IN THE HOUSE

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar): Madam, I want to say something. (*Interruption*).

उप सभापति महोदया, मेरा प्वायंट आफ आर्डर है ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, Mr. Gurupadasamy wants to say something. (Interruptions).

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलूवालिया : उप सभापति महोदया, पहले मेरी बात सुन ली जाए । .. (**व्यवधान**) .. उप सभापति महोदया, हमारी बात पहले सुन ली जाए और पहले यह बताइये कि इस सदन की गरिमा को बचा कर रखा जाएगा या नहीं ? .. (**व्यवधान**) ..

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra): Madam, you must listen to him first. You can call Mr. Gurupadaswamy. But first Mr. S. S. Ahluwalia has raised it. (*Interruption*) ...

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलूवालिया) : उप सभापति महोदया, अभी मुझे जो कुछ पता है हाउस में और जो कुछ हम लोगों ने देखा है और इस सदन की गरिमा पर जिस तरह से कुठाराघात किया गया है इसके जिम्मेदार कौन लोग हैं ? As a custodian of this House, I want your justice. I want your protection also. You tell me what type of action you are going to take against these people who are responsible for such things.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will give my ruling in the end. Let everybody speak. Then I will give my ruling. I understand the sentiments of the House and I feel very very sorry. I am really ashamed of such a behaviour. But let Mr. M. S. Gurupadaswacy also say something.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Madam Deputy Chairman, it is with sorrow and anguish I am speaking on this occasion. Many things which should not have happened in the House have happened. The developments of today have not only marred the atmosphere in the House but have affected the fellowship, the understanding between Member and Member. It has also affected the working of Parliament itself. I do not think anybody in this House justifies in his moments of detached thinking what all happened for the last two or three hours. There was a chain of events which led to many things which we do not like and such things should not be repeated in the future if we wish to guard dignity and decency in the House. It was a sort of an emotional and sentimental upsurge which caused aberration in our behaviour on the floor of the House. I think, for the working of the Parliamentary institutions, such things should be totally avoided. What is past is past. And we the Members of the House have got to work as a fraternity. We cannot work as warring camps. I am aware of it, whether we belong to this side of the House or that side of the House. We are all brothers and sisters. We are a fraternity. Sometimes even in the fraternity differences arise. But they have got to be sorted out peacefully. On this particular incident which took place I feel extremely distressed. Some Member belonging to my side took away some paper from the Table and tore it. I feel it is an unfortunate incident. It should not happen. The

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

staff of the House are not responsible for our behaviour or misbehaviour. They should not be subjected to any intimidation, harassment, and there should not be interference. So what happened is highly regrettable and I, on behalf of my side, the Opposition feel sorry for the incident. And we, all of us, in future should conduct ourselves to see such a thing is avoided, and normal, peaceful, atmosphere is restored in the House. I do not want to add anything more. I would like an atmosphere, a spirit, of reciprocity should prevail. There should be mutual respect between the Opposition and the Government and the Parliament should go on on the basis of mutual give and take, on the basis of consultation and on the basis of prior decisions arrived at after consultations. With these words may I end by saying that all of us should have a collective responsibility to the incident which took place. Let us forget it. Past is past and about this particular incident again I say such an incident should be avoided. I regret it.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): Madam Deputy Chairman, I would like to sincerely respond to the sentiments expressed by Mr. Gurupadaswamy on behalf of the Oposition, in the spirit in which he has expressed the sentiments. I particularly appreciate his expression about the particular incident in which a paper was removed and snatched away. The staff is entitled to our respect and all of us have to give them respect, whether from this side or from that side. They deserve our protection. We have all to obey the Chair and work with each other. This is the last day of this Session of the House. This is an august House. As Mr. Gurupadaswamy has said, we have to work together, and in spite of our differences we should work together. We have differences. There are certain things as certain moments. We feel certain things. We say certain things and do certain things which should not be done. What has happened today should not have happened. And I am sincerely and honestly responding to the sentiments expressed by Mr. Gurupadaswamy. Let the past be past. Let us get on to our work. Of course you are there in the Chair and it is up to you. But I would say that this is the last day of the Session. Let us take up the Bill moved by Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai and end the Session.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, I sitting in the Chair have gone through since the beginning of this Session very unruly scenes, regardless on which side they were. It is very unfortunate that we have behaved in the way we should not have in this House. I can understand that there could be differences of opinion. But certainly that does not mean that the rules and the conventions which we have imposed on ourselves should be broken by us. And what happened today is most unfortunate and it is, I feel, condemnable that any papers...(*Interruptions*) which are on the Table should be picked up by any Member and I feel one with what Mr. Gurupadaswamy has said and also the reaction of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, and it is in the same spirit that I am saying this. I hope that those Members, some of them seniors if they have any concern for the dignity of this House and if they have any dignity and respect for themselves and for this House, would get up and apologise to the Members and to the staff of the Rajya Sabha who sit day in and day out, at late hours, while we go home after adjourning the House, and work for the House; they do not deserve this kind of a treatment. I hope that hose Members who come to this august House will show to the country and the people that when they misbehave, they have also the courage to say,

will respond to the request from the Chair and say that they are sorry for what they did. I am sure they did not mean it and I hope that they will condemn their own behaviour.

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल (उत्तर प्रदेश) . उपसभापति जी, मुझे भी दो शब्द कहना है । ..(**व्यवधान**).. मैं इस वातावरण को ठीक करना चाहता हूं । मैं कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता..(**व्यवधान**)..सुन लें जरा सा । यह जरूर है कि हम भी इस वातावरण को जानते हैं ।...(**व्यवधान**)... मैं एक ही बात कहना चाहता हूं । उपसभापति महोदया, नेता विरोधी दल ने जिस सद्भावना.... (**व्यवधान**)....हम कुछ भी नहीं कहना चाहते हैं, आप सुनिए जरा । नेता विरोधी दल ने जिस सद्भावना का परिचय दिया है, मैं उसकी तारीफ करता हूं । साथ ही हमारे संसदीय मंत्री जी ने जैसा कहा, इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं हैं । उपसभापति महोदया, आपने स्वयं महसूस किया है कि इन दिनों यहां की कार्यवाही जिस तरीके से चल रही है । मुझे भी बोर्ड से लेकर एसेम्बली, पार्लियामेंट और राज्य सभा तक आने का सौभाग्य प्राप्त हुआ है । जिस तरह से आए दिन वातावरण होता जा रहा है कम-से-कम मैं यह चाहता हूं कि आइंदा कोई भी सदस्य, इधर का न उधर का, अपनी जगह छोड़कर न जाएं । जो आज दिक्कत हुई है उसे जगेश जी भी जानते थे या जो यहां दृश्य देखे गए हैं, मैं उसे दोहराना नहीं चाहता, शुद्ध वातावरण को अशुद्ध नहीं करना चाहता, इसलिए दोनों तरफ के सदस्यों को उपसभापति जी, मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि कोई सदस्य अपनी जगह छोड़कर न जाए । यह कम-से-कम आइंदा के लिए कहा जाए ।

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Madam Deputy Chairman, I would now request all the Members not to speak, but to let the atmosphere continue to be as it is. As Mr. Gurupadaswamy has said and also as the Chair has said, let this atmosphere prevail.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am very sorry that Mr. Reddy is not going to apologise... (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): No; I won't ...(*Interruptions*)... Why should I? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, that was wrong information. Mr. Reddy did not snatch the papers. I do not know who told you like that.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I did not take his name... (*Interruptions*)—

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Madam, it is a wrong information and I do not know who told you.

कृषि मंत्री (श्री भजन लाल) मैडम जब तक ये कापसे माफी नहीं मांगे तब तक इन्हें बोलने नहीं दिया जाना चाहिये । यह कोई तरीका है ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Well, let us close this matter.

If those Members do not want to apologize, it is up to them. I thought that if they had some dignity they will come forward and apologize. From this Chair it never happened in the history that the Chair would apologize. But I did. To keep the dignity of this House, I said 'I am sorry' one day. And I am sorry that in spite of the indication the Chair had given the Members do not want to come forward. It is entirely a reflection on them.

I am going to take up the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes... (*Interruptions*)

श्री लालकृष्ण आडवाणी (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदया, यह बहस शुरू हो, इससे पहले मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि संविधान संशोधन विधेयक हम लेंगे या नहीं लेंगे क्योंकि बहुत से मैम्बरों को पार्टीज ने विप्स दिए हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)

श्री एच. के. एल. भगत : आडवाणी जी सुबह आप हाउस में नहीं थे...(**व्यवधान**)

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी : अगर हम नहीं लेने वाले हैं तो हमको जानकारी होनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Untunately, you were not in the House the whole day. It had been announced before lunch and after lunch that they are not going to take up the Constitution (Amendment) Bills.

श्री एच के एल भगत : नहीं हम नहीं ले रहे हैं। सुबह श्री ओ क दिया था। हमने.... (व्यवधान ....लन्च के बाद अनाऊंस हो गया था, मैंने कह दिया था।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I hope you will be more informed.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Just one thing, Madam, let the Bill regarding the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes be moved and let it be passed without discussion or debate and the House be adjourned *sine die.*

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: That is right. It will be doing justice if the House passes it without any debate.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra): I also associate myself with Mr. Dipen Ghosh.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Bill, 1989

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): Madam, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to prevent the commission of offences of atrocities against the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to provide for Special Courts for the trial of such offences and for the relief and rehabilitation of the victims of such offences and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

This House is aware of the deep concern that our Prime Minister and our Government have for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Many new initiatives have been taken particularly in the last few years to improve the lot of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Since we got independence Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and then Mrs. Indira Gandhi and now our Prime Minister have been trying to improve the economic and social condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In trying to discharge a mandate of the Constitution, Poverty Alleviation Programmes which provide special attention to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been expanded and intensified. First the IRDP and other programmes were improved considerably and now these have been replaced by a bigger scheme of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. Drinking water wells and irrigation wells have been provided for this group. The needs of housing have been met by the Indira Awas Yojana. The programme for liberation of scavengers has been given a greater impetus. The education of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which is of crucial importance to their growth and development has received much greater attention. The number of students studying beyond the Matriculation stage has gone up to 13 lakhs. Coaching centres have been increased. A special drive is currently on for filling up the backlog which had arisen as a result of non-fulfilment of reserved seats for SC/ST. And that drive is continuing. Efforts are also being made to free them from bonded labour and to find land for cultivation. As you all know among the landless labourers about 48 per cent are from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.